

Physical Science Support Document

Characterizing Solutions: Background Information

H ₂ SO ₄ : Dissolve 5.6 mL concentrated sulfuric acid in 1000 mL water
KCl: Dissolve 7.5 g solid potassium chloride in 1000 mL water
C ₁₂ H ₂₂ O ₁₁ : Dissolve 34.2 g solid sucrose in 1000 mL water
C ₂ H ₅ OH: Dissolve 4.6 mL absolute, denatured ethanol in 1000 mL water (approximation)
Distilled H ₂ O (pure solvent): Use fresh, distilled water

References

This activity was designed by David English, Michelle Chadwick, and Jody Holloway from Northside High School Science Department Jacksonville, NC.

Answers to Questions

Part I

1. Examine the colors of Litmus in the solution. Place the solutions into groups of substances that have similar effects on litmus. State the reason that you have grouped the substances as you have.

<i>Substance</i>
<i>HCl: Blue litmus turns red</i>
<i>NaOH: Red litmus turns blue</i>
<i>HC₂H₃O₂: Blue litmus turns red</i>
<i>NaCl: No color change</i>
<i>KOH: Red litmus turns blue</i>
<i>Ca(OH)₂: Red litmus turns blue</i>
<i>H₂SO₄: Blue litmus turns red</i>
<i>KCl: No color change</i>
<i>C₁₂H₂₂O₁₁: No color change</i>
<i>C₂H₅OH: No color change</i>
<i>Distilled H₂O (pure solvent): no color change</i>

2. Examine the electrical conductivity seen with each solution. Place the solutions into groups based on their ability to conduct electricity. In words, state the reason that you have grouped the substances as you have.

<i>Electrolytes</i>	<i>Nonelectrolytes</i>
<i>HCl, NaOH, HC₂H₃O₂, NaCl, KOH, Ca(OH)₂, H₂SO₄, KCl</i>	<i>C₁₂H₂₂O₁₁, C₂H₅OH</i>

3. Examine the pH of the solutions. Place the solutions in groups based on your pH measurements. In words, state the reason that you have grouped the substances as you have.

<i>pH < 7</i>	<i>pH > 7</i>	<i>pH approximately equal to distilled water</i>
<i>HCl, HC₂H₃O₂, H₂SO₄</i>	<i>NaOH, KOH, Ca(OH)₂</i>	<i>NaCl, KCl, C₁₂H₂₂O₁₁,</i>